

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 9, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendments have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-4, 6-11, and 13-17, 19, and 20 are now pending in this application. Claims 5, 12, and 18 stand cancelled. Claims 1-4, 6-11, and 13-17, 19, and 20 stand rejected.

The rejection of Claims 13 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite is respectfully traversed. Specifically Claims 13 and 19 have each been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully requests that the Section 112 rejection of Claims 13 and 19 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-4, 5-11, and 13-17, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bissonnette et al. (U.S. Pub. App. No. 2004/0135588) (hereinafter "Bissonnette") in view of Elton et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,853,565) (hereinafter "Elton") is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 5 has been cancelled and independent Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the recitations of Claim 5. Accordingly, Claim 1 is submitted to be in condition for allowance over Bissonnette in view of Elton.

Claims 2-4, 6, and 7 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-4, 6, and 7 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-4, 6, and 7 likewise are patentable over Bissonnette in view of Elton.

Claim 12 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 12 has been cancelled and independent Claim 8 has been amended to include all of the recitations of Claim 12. Accordingly, Claim 8 is submitted to be in condition for allowance over Bissonnette in view of Elton.

Claims 9-11, 13, and 14 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 8. When the recitations of Claims 9-11, 13, and 14 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 8, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 9-11, 13, and 14 likewise are patentable over Bissonnette in view of Elton.

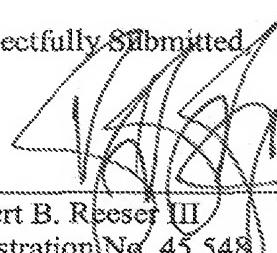
Claim 18 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 18 has been cancelled and independent Claim 15 has been amended to include all of the recitations of Claim 18. Accordingly, Claim 15 is submitted to be in condition for allowance over Bissonnette in view of Elton.

Claims 16, 17, 19, and 20 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 15. When the recitations of Claims 16, 17, 19, and 20 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants submit that dependent 16, 17, 19, and 20 likewise are patentable over Bissonnette in view of Elton.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-11, and 13-17, 19, and 20 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.:
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Richard Neil Swartout et al. : Art Unit: 2834
Serial No.: 10/780,178 : Examiner: Mullins, Burton S.
Filed: Feb 17, 2004 :
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MEASURING :
WEDGE TIGHTNESS :

Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is:

- * This Amendment Transmittal (3 pages)
- * Amendment (7 pages)

STATUS

2. Applicant

claims small entity status.
is other than a small entity.

EXTENSION OF TERM

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply.

(complete (a) or (b), as applicable)

(a) _____ Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136
(Fees: 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)-(d) for the total number of months checked below:)

Extension for response within:	Other than small entity Fee	Small entity Fee (if applicable)
first month	\$ 120.00	\$ 60.00
second month	\$ 450.00	\$ 225.00

third month	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 510.00
fourth month	\$1,590.00	\$ 795.00
fifth month	\$2,160.00	\$1,080.00

Fee: \$ _____

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

(Check and complete the next item, if applicable)

An extension of _____ months has already been secured. The fee paid therefor \$_____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

Extension fee due with this request \$_____

OR

- (b) Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)		(Col. 3)		SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA		ADDITIONAL RATE FEE		ADDITIONAL RATE FEE	
TOTAL INDEP.		MINUS		=		x \$25.00 = \$		x \$50.00 = \$	
		MINUS		=		x \$160.00 = \$		x \$200.00 = \$	
____ FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM						+ \$120.00 = \$		+ \$260.00 = \$	
						TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE \$	OR	TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE \$	

- (a) No additional fee for Claims is required

OR

- (b) Total additional fee for claims required \$ _____

FEE PAYMENT

5. Attached is a check in the sum of \$_____

- Charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384 the sum of \$.....
A duplicate of this transmittal is attached.

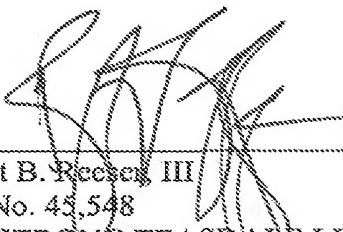
FEE DEFICIENCY

6. If any additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384.

AND/OR

- If any additional fee for claims is required, charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384.

7. Other:



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